

## **School Board**

### **Board Member Development**

The Board desires that its individual members learn, understand, and practice effective governance principles. The Board is responsible for Board member orientation and development. Board members have an equal opportunity to attend State and national meetings designed to familiarize members with public school issues, governance, and legislation.

The Board President and/or Superintendent shall provide all Board members with information regarding pertinent education materials, publications, and notices of training or development.

#### **Mandatory Board Member Training**

Each Board member is responsible for his or her own compliance with the mandatory training laws that are described below:

1. Each Board member taking office after June 13, 2011 must complete at least 4 hours of professional development leadership training in education and labor law, financial oversight and accountability, and fiduciary responsibilities within the first year of his or her first term that begins after that date.
2. Each Board member who was in office on January 1, 2012 must complete training on the Open Meetings Act within one year of that date. Each Board member taking office after January 1, 2012 must complete this training no later than 90 days after taking the oath of office. After completing the training, each Board member must file a copy of his or her certificate of completion with his or her Board.
3. After the District's implementation of the Performance Evaluation Reform Act (PERA) evaluations, each Board member must complete a training program on PERA evaluations.
4. Any mandated Board member training will be paid for by the District as noted in Policy 2:125 "Board Member Expenses".

#### **Professional Development; Adverse Consequences of School Exclusion; Student Behavior**

The Board President or Superintendent, or their designees, will make reasonable efforts to provide ongoing professional development to Board members about the adverse consequences of school exclusion and justice-system involvement, effective classroom management strategies, culturally responsive discipline, appropriate and available supportive services for the promotion of student attendance and engagement, and developmentally appropriate disciplinary methods that promote positive and healthy school climates.

#### **Board Self-Evaluation**

The Board will conduct periodic self-evaluations with the goal of continuous improvement.

#### **Candidates**

The Superintendent or designee shall invite all current candidates for the office of Board member to attend: (1) Board meetings, except that this invitation shall not extend to any closed meetings, and (2) pre-election workshops for candidates.

#### **New Board Member Orientation**

The orientation process for newly elected or appointed Board members includes:

1. The Board President or Superintendent, or their designees, shall give each new Board member a copy of or online access to the Board Policy Manual, the Board's regular meeting minutes for the past year, and other helpful information including material describing the District and explaining the Board's roles and responsibilities.
2. The Board President or designee shall schedule one or more special Board meetings, or schedule time during regular meetings, for Board members to become acquainted and to review Board processes and procedures.
3. The Board President may request a veteran Board member to mentor a new member.
4. All new members are encouraged to attend workshops for new members conducted by the Illinois Association of School Boards.

LEGAL REF.: 5 ILCS 120/1.05 and 120/2., 105 ILCS 5/10-16a and 5/24-16.5.

CROSS REF.: 2:80 (Board Member Oath and Conduct), 2:125 (Board Member Expenses),  
2:200 (Types of School Board Meetings)

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Adopted by the Board of Education September 2001

Revised and Adopted: December 2006, March 2013, October 2019